

PROCEDURES FOR CHURCH VISITING

The three regional groups for church visiting:

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Crossroads, Ajax2. Hebron, Whitby3. Hope, Port Perry4. Zion, Oshawa5. Hope Fellowship, Courtice6. Rehoboth, Bowmanville7. Discovery, Bowmanville8. Maranatha, Bowmanville
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Jennings Creek, Lindsay2. Cephas, Peterborough3. Living Hope, Peterborough4. Grace, Cobourg5. Fellowship, Brighton
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ebenezer, Trenton2. Community, Frankford3. Bethany, Bloomfield4. Maranatha, Belleville5. First, Kingston6. Westside, Kingston

Each church is responsible as Church Visitor for the NEXT church numerically in their group. The last church will visit the first church.

Each church will send one pastor and one elder to lead the church visit. Each Council can decide who will go from their Council. Ministry Associates can serve as Pastor on a Church Visiting Team, with the approval of Classis.

Vacant churches are relieved from serving as Church Visitors. In the event of a vacancy:

- The regular Church Visitors will jump ahead to the next church numerically.
- The assigned Church Counselor will serve as Church Visitor with elder from their church.
- No Pastor/Church shall be responsible as Church Visitor for more than two churches.
- Vacant Churches can, with the approval of Classis, serve as Church Visitors if they have someone serving as Pastoral Staff (Interim, Ministry Associate).

Church Visiting Teams use the Questionnaire as the basis for their visit. Each Church will be asked to complete before the annual visit.

A written Church Visitors report will be submitted to Classis annually.

FOUNDATIONS

1. This spreads the responsibility of church visiting to all churches and pastors, and not just a few.
2. By sharing these duties, it is more likely that church visits will actually take place.
3. This allows for more consistency for church visits and reports by using a common set of questions, as determined by classis.
4. All pastors and elders are approved in advance, so no need for CMC to look for designated church visitors.



Classis Quinte

Pre Visit Questionnaire

Dear Clerk and Council

One of the roles of Classis Quinte is to conduct Church Visits with the various local congregations. Our mission as a Classis is to help each church realize their full God given potential and be as healthy of a congregation as possible. In order to help our upcoming visit be productive and focused, the following questionnaire has been developed.

Thank you for being willing to serve in the leadership of the church and thank you for taking five minutes to answer the following questions.

Please be completely honest and open in your responses. Your responses will be held in confidence. We do ask that you write in your name so if we have follow up questions we can connect with you.

Please fill in this survey and return to your church office so that it can be scanned and emailed to the church visitors. Alternatively you can complete the survey online at <http://bit.ly/2h6n2ln>

1. What are the two or three things you really appreciate about your church right now?

2. What are one or two problems that would be good to address over the next year?

3. If every other area of your church remained at its current level of performance, what are the one or two area(s) where change would have the greatest impact?

Name: _____ Email or Contact # _____

Church Visitor Questions Model 2

A. Introduction:

1. Introduce self and explain role of Church Visitor and the purpose for the evening
2. Housekeeping (ensure congregation was informed -- did any members ask to visit with us? -- confirm timeframe for the visit, ie: 60-75 minutes)

B. Personal Experiences as a Council Member:

1. In your service as an office-bearer, what's been personally rewarding? Where have you been blessed? How have you grown?
2. What's been the biggest challenge? What have you found difficult personally?

C. Shared Experiences as Council:

1. Share two "successes" (two cause for genuine celebration/thanksgiving) in the past year. How has God been at work? Where have you seen Him moving?
2. Share one struggle you've faced together as a Council over this past year? What did God teach you?
3. What might make your ministry even more effective in the congregation? In the community? What steps can you take to begin addressing these opportunities?

D. Your Partnership with your Pastor (and Ministry Staff):

1. What are some of the things you've appreciated about your pastor and his ministry?
2. How do you care for and nurture your pastor? Do you have a continuing education policy in place (if not, why not)? Do you have a sabbatical policy in place (if not, why not)?
3. To the pastor: What do you see and appreciate in this Council?
4. What steps can you take this year as Council and Pastor to further strengthen your relationship?

E. Your Partnership with the Congregation:

1. How is the relationship between the Council and congregation? What steps can you take to further deepen the level of trust between these two parties?